

RECOGNIZING 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 81st anniversary of National Bible Week.

In 1941, weeks before the United States entered into World War II, Franklin D. Roosevelt declared the week of Thanksgiving as National Bible Week. This celebration recognizes the spiritual and historical significance of the Bible. It is a week where we can come together and celebrate this holy book. The Bible shaped our Nation's history and continues to provide guidance to the lives of so many.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful to live in a country where we can freely read Scripture and worship the Lord without fear of persecution. The Bible is timeless and continues to provide us with words of wisdom, comfort, and guidance as we navigate unprecedented times.

Madam Speaker, I leave you with this verse from 2 Timothy 3:16–17, one that I keep close to my heart: “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.”

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING LONDON SCHOOL THIRD GRADERS

(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the third grade classes at Landon School.

In the class of Ms. Brown is my nephew, Jake, who, like his fellow classmates, works very hard to treat others with respect and honor.

That is one of the important principles of Landon because Landon holds firmly to the conviction that character matters, and they aim to graduate students who will positively impact their communities.

The Landon third graders are off to a good start, recently finishing a unit on the three branches of government.

I am honored they have asked me to join them over Zoom to tell them about what it is like being a Member of Congress.

I applaud Landon students for showing interest in the important work of serving in government, and I expect, Madam Speaker, that one day some of them will end up right here, speaking at the podium. Go Bears.

CONGRATULATING TAKEITA TOLLMAN

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Savannah attorney Takeita Tollman for her placement on the Georgia Trend 40 Under 40 list.

Takeita is a very impressive young woman who has dedicated her life to public service. She began her career as a certified nurse assistant in high school, intending to become a doctor upon graduation.

Once she reached college, she realized that her passion was in writing and turned to a career in the legal profession.

Takeita attended law school at the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio. Takeita's legal specialties are Social Security disability, workers' compensation, and personal injury.

Takeita is serving some of the most vulnerable within our community. She is dedicated to helping people not just in the office but after hours, too.

She is a member of the Port City Bar Association and offers job shadowing to members of 100 Black Men of America. She also organized a sock drive for Savannah's homeless population.

I am proud to say that stories like Takeita's aren't uncommon in Savannah, though this makes them no less impressive. It just shows the kind of city we are.

I take this opportunity to thank Georgia Trend for recognizing Takeita's excellent work today and congratulate her on making the 40 Under 40 list.

ONGOING CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. FULCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on the ongoing crisis at our southern border.

Recently, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas stated that the border is secure. No one, including the Border Patrol agents he is tasked with leading, believes that assertion.

The truth is, in the last month, border agents reported over 70,000 apprehensions at the southern border, the highest month on record.

Now, you may ask yourself: Why is a Member of Congress from Idaho concerned about what is happening 700 miles away?

The truth is, the Biden administration's dereliction of duty at the border has consequences for millions of Americans across the country, including my constituents in Idaho.

Idaho Sheriff Kieran Donahue raised the alarm on how our porous border and drug cartels are creating the

fentanyl crisis in so many communities, warning that due to these policies, fentanyl is at everyone's doorstep.

In 26 days, Republicans will take control of this Chamber, and the Biden administration should be prepared to take account for their complete failure to address this border crisis.

□ 2015

WE ARE A NATION OF CARING AND HUMANITARIANISM

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, 18 days before this Nation turns its eyes toward a beautiful recognition—for those of us who practice the understanding of the birth of our Lord—Christmas—and the many other faiths that will celebrate their special days in their own way—Brittney Griner still remains incarcerated in the most devastating, horrific, cruel, and brutal conditions. She must come home, along with Paul Whelan.

At the same time, I stand with the defenders of democracy, Ukraine, and hope that we will provide the resources necessary and be able to accept their fight for democracy while our former President asks to suspend our Constitution. Let us do the support for Ukraine and not suspend the Constitution.

Finally, ravaging floods are still plaguing the people of Pakistan. We have asked for \$600 million. They deserve those dollars to be able to restore their lives—pregnant women, families, farmers suffering and starving. It is necessary, as an ally of the United States, that we try to respond in this funding cycle now—dollars needed for Pakistan.

I look forward to working with the administration to provide the relief that they need. We are a Nation of caring and humanitarianism.

Bring Brittney Griner home now.

MAKE AMERICA MORE SAFE AND SECURE

(Mr. FALLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, it shouldn't be a partisan issue when we talk about the border and border security.

You know what it really comes down to?

It is the United States of America versus the Mexican drug cartels.

In April of this year, we had 234,000 illegal border crossings. It was the worst on record, by the way, only to be exceeded the very next month, in May, by 241,000 illegal border crossings.

Why do I mention this?

Because we don't know who these people are. No one ever talks about the 3.8 million people in the world that are

waiting to come to this country legally, to respect the laws and the rules of the country that they want to become a part of—who are exactly the kind of folks that we want to come here.

Another thing nobody ever talks about is 95 percent of those people are people of color, and they are going to be wonderful people that make America stronger.

The Mexican drug cartels are making, on estimate, \$25 billion a year, and now they are charging \$4,000 a head for illegal crossings, which adds another \$12 billion to their pockets. And we have had 107,000 deaths last year alone to opioid overdoses.

We need to unite as Americans, secure our southern border, and make our country more secure and Americans safer.

REPUBLICAN CONTROL WILL PROVIDE ACCOUNTABILITY AND PRODUCE RESULTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK).

Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friends for joining us on the floor tonight at this late hour. It has been a long day on Capitol Hill, but there are things that need to be said here.

It is December again, and of course that means that we are in the homestretch of a new Congress, this Congress, the 117th. The homestretch of any Congress, as we know, is when the threat of bad legislating is at its most pronounced. We have certainly seen all that here this week.

Government appropriations have been taken hostage by Democrats who want to spend even more. They seem to have forgotten about the trillions of dollars that have already been spent earlier this year.

The NDAA has been taken hostage just today by Democrats who think the right to vote is under some sort of secret threat. I guess they didn't pay attention to the massive voter turnout in Georgia just yesterday.

Here tonight, they rushed through a rule to codify same-sex marriage and create a private right of action that will vilify and supercharge attacks on people of faith.

Madam Speaker, this lame duck session is doing serious and lasting harm

to our Republic, and I guess it is a fitting end to this—what really has been a disastrous Congress overall under Democrat rule. We have with trillions upon trillions in government spending, sending inflation for all American families soaring.

We have had votes on immensely consequential, complex, thousand-plus-page bills, handed to us just hours before those votes. We have had Members dial into congressional hearings from their bedrooms and basements and even while on vacation in Europe—proxy voting. Thankfully, this is all about to come to an end, mercifully in less than a month.

The American people have spoken and the American people have given Republicans control of this body to provide accountability and produce results.

Madam Speaker, this is a legislative body and it is high time for this body to get back to the work that we are supposed to be doing for the American people. Come January, that is exactly what we intend to do.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues for joining us here today to talk about all of it.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding and for claiming the time this evening.

Madam Speaker, in 27 days, adherence to the constitutional principles will be returned to this institution.

In 27 days, accountability will be returned to our government.

In 27 days, Republicans will take the majority in this Chamber, secure the committee gavels, and begin the long climb to deliver a strong economy, a safe Nation, a free future, and an accountable government.

I say "the long climb" because over the course of the last 2 years of one-party Democratic rule in Washington, America has lost its way. We have seen trillions of hard-earned tax dollars and trillions borrowed from the next generation wasted. We have seen our national border overrun with millions of illegal immigrants and enough illicit and deadly fentanyl to kill every American many times over.

After decades of trying, America finally successfully achieved energy independence under the Trump administration. But in 2 years we have seen this country driven back into the ditch of energy dependence on foreign dictators and the high energy prices that come with it.

We have seen the funding of an army of 87,000 new IRS agents to go after the middle-class, working Americans in this country, catastrophic failures in Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world, and a justice system targeting concerned parents, vaccine mandates damaging our military readiness, unelected bureaucrats run amok in virtue signaling, and Big Tech in cahoots

with our government to stifle free speech for half of the American citizenry.

That is a mind-boggling amount of damage over 2 short years, and even a strong Nation like America can only take so much. But, thankfully, the turnaround begins on January 3, 2023, when Republicans retake the majority in the U.S. House of Representatives.

All of these issues are vitally important to the good folks back in my home of middle Tennessee. But I truly believe no issue is more important than that of the right to free speech. George Washington said, "If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."

We recently learned that Twitter colluded with the Biden campaign and allegedly the FBI to suppress damaging information to President Biden's campaign. This only makes me wonder:

What else are these Big Tech companies hiding?

Soon enough, we will be able to find out.

Additionally, Securities and Exchange Commissioner Gary Gensler appears to be on a mission to destroy our small farms and businesses. He failed to provide proper oversight of crypto companies while cozying up to the biggest crypto fraud of the last decade, all while not appearing before the House Financial Services Committee in over 428 days.

Proper oversight will be on its way in 27 days.

Madam Speaker, for too long unelected bureaucrats have not had to answer to the American people. Make no mistake: no stone will go unturned in order to deliver the accountability the American people truly deserve.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend. That is so well said. There are so many issues to cover.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, he so quite correctly outlined some of the difficulties facing Congress as we get to this end-of-the-year crunch of legislation that has to pass before the end of the year.

There is no place where this is more pronounced than for our Nation's doctors. The very people that we asked to get us through the pandemic, the very people that we have asked to take care of us. And now we arrive at the end of this Congress, and we say: Thank you for your service, here is your pay cut. And they go: Wait, what? A paycheck.

The Surgeon General came to the Doctors Caucus earlier this year and said he is concerned. He goes around and talks to doctors all over the country, he is concerned about the level of burnout that he is seeing in the Nation's physicians. He said he has never seen this before.

It really should not be a surprise. You work doctors and nurses day and night during the pandemic, and then